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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,374	07/18/2003	Yuji Kato	04208.0184	4048

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EXAMINER

PATEL, TULSIDAS C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 01/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/621,374

Applicant(s)

KATO, YUJI

Examiner

T. C. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

General Status

1. This is a First Action on the Merits. Claims 1-9 are pending in the case.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yagi (US 6,146,173).

For claims 1, 2, Yagi, in figures 1-5, discloses an IC socket comprising a socket body 11 for mounting an IC 1 package thereon, a plurality of contacts 7 provided in the socket body and a cover member 14 of a frame shape having an opening at a center thereof and adapted to be movable upward and downward, wherein a rib is provided to be coupled to either a lower surface or a lateral surface of a partition wall where cam 17 is positioned, for sectioning a cam surface 18 of the cover member for operating the contact. For claims 2 and 3, the rib area is lateral and lower surface of the partition wall, where contact part 25 is located.

For claim 4, the contact has a movable contact section 24, 25 capable to deform elastically and extending from a portion 10 fixed to the socket body. For claim 5, the contact is of a one-point touch at 8 structure having the movable contact section, comprising a movable

contact point formed at a tip end of a bending portion bending at a generally right angle from a strip portion of the movable contact section capable to deform elastically and extending upward from a base section 10 fixed to the socket body, and a follower portion 25 extending upward from the bending portion, wherein a tip end 26 of the follower portion is formed to be engaged with the cam surface 18 on the lower side of the cover member and is cam-operated thereby.

For claim 6, the contact has a stationary contact section at 10 and a movable contact section provided in correspondence to the stationary contact section to be movable relative thereto.

For claim 8, the follower portion of the movable contact section is accommodated in a chamber defined by the cam surface on the lower side of the cover member and the partition walls coupled to the ribs. For claim 9, the follower portions of the movable contact sections are respectively arranged in the chambers on the lower side of the cover member.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tokushige (US 5,443,396).

For claims 1, 2, Tokushige, in figures 2-7, discloses an IC socket comprising a socket body 1 for mounting an IC 4 package thereon, a plurality of contacts 3 provided in the socket body and a cover member 2 of a frame shape having an opening at a center thereof and adapted to be movable upward and downward, wherein a rib is provided to be coupled to either a lower surface or a lateral surface of a partition wall where cam 2a is positioned, for sectioning a cam surface of the cover member for operating the contact. For claims 2 and 3, the rib area is lateral and lower surface of the partition wall, where contact part 3 is located.

For claim 4, the contact has a movable contact section 3c capable to deform elastically and extending from a portion (bottom) fixed to the socket body.

For claim 5, the contact is of a one-point touch at 3b structure having the movable contact section, comprising a movable contact point formed at a tip end of a bending portion bending at a generally right angle from a strip portion of the movable contact section capable to deform elastically and extending upward from a base section fixed to the socket body, and a follower portion 3a extending upward from the bending portion, wherein a tip end 3a of the follower portion is formed to be engaged with the cam surface on the lower side of the cover member and is cam-operated thereby.

For claim 6, the contact has a stationary contact section at the base and a movable contact section provided in correspondence to the stationary contact section to be movable relative thereto.

For claim 7, the contact forms a two-point touch structure having the stationary contact section 3e and the movable contact section 3b,

the stationary contact section and the movable contact section are branched from a base section fixed to the socket body,

the movable contact section 3b has a movable contact point formed at a tip end of a bending portion extending from a strip portion of the movable contact section capable to deform elastically and extending upward from the base section, which bending portion bends to form a generally right angle relative to the strip portion, and a follower portion 3a projected

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upward from the bending portion, and a tip end of the follower portion is engaged with a cam surface on the lower side of the cover member to be cam-operated.

For claim 8, the follower portion of the movable contact section is accommodated in a chamber defined by the cam surface on the lower side of the cover member and the partition walls coupled to the ribs. For claim 9, the follower portions of the movable contact sections are respectively arranged in the chambers on the lower side of the cover member.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's invention. Yamada (US 6,533,595), Ikeya (US 4,846,704), Hayakawa et al. (US 5,395,260), Shimada (US 6,350,137), Uratsuji (US 5,076,798), and Nagumo (US 5,368,497) all disclose socket connectors.

Applicant also should consider these references in response to this office action. Should issue arise concerning the rejection presented above, these references may be relied upon in a subsequent action to support the lack of novelty or obviousness of claimed subject matter to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Change of Address

6. Effective May 1, 2003, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has a new Commissioner for Patents address. Correspondence in patent-related matters to organizations reporting to the Commissioner for Patents must now be addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Hand-delivered of responses should be brought to:

Crystal Plaza-4, Fourth floor (receptionist)
2201 South Clark Place, Arlington, Virginia

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to T. C. Patel whose telephone number is (703) 308-1736 OR (703) 272-2098 (after January 30, 2004). The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (703) 308-2710 OR (703) 272-2092 (after January 30, 2004). The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.


T. C. Patel
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

tcp
January 15, 2004